

PRESS RELEASE
IOWA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

For release, October 11, 2004

Recently, the Iowa Board of Medical Examiners took the following action:

Joseph L. Monahan, III, D.O., a 47 year-old physician currently practicing in Clinton, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve pending disciplinary charges. Dr. Monahan was charged with failing to fully comply with terms and conditions of his substance abuse monitoring program. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Monahan was issued a Citation and Warning, ordered to pay a \$2,500 fine, and his Iowa medical license was placed on indefinite probation subject to certain terms and conditions for substance abuse monitoring.

Douglas J. Ramos, M.D., a 49 year-old physician from Omaha, Nebraska, entered into a combined Statement of Charges, Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. The Board charged Dr. Ramos with engaging in unprofessional conduct when he initiated inappropriate physical contact with another physician and with being disciplined by the Nebraska Medical Board. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Ramos was issued a Citation and Warning.

Sridhar Yaratha, M.D., a 34 year-old psychiatrist formerly practicing in Davenport, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges, Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. The Board charged Dr. Yaratha with violating the laws and rules of the Board, with being disciplined by the State of West Virginia, and with engaging in an inappropriate sexual and/or romantic relationship with a patient. On February 17, 2004, the Board filed charges against Dr. Yaratha for violating the laws and rules of the Board. The Board also learned that Dr. Yaratha had engaged in an inappropriate sexual and/or romantic relationship with a patient in violation of appropriate physician-patient boundaries. On August 19, 2004, Dr. Yaratha was disciplined by the West Virginia Medical Board for his relationship with the patient. On September 24, 2004, Dr. Yaratha agreed to enter into a combined Statement of Charges, Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Iowa Board to resolve all current allegations. On October 7, 2004, the Board voted to withdraw the February 17, 2004, Statement of Charges and accept the signed combined Statement of Charges, Settlement Agreement and Final Order. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Yaratha was issued a Citation and Warning, ordered to pay a \$10,000 fine and his Iowa medical license was indefinitely suspended.